

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 01580 171011 Z

13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 AID-20 IO-12 PC-04 RSR-01 /119 W

----- 088630

R 170456 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4041

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 1580

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT

SUBJECT: LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS ISSUE: ALL QUIET

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 1571

1. PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS APRIL 16 PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT AND KUALA LUMPUR BREATHED SIGH OF RELIEF. K. L. PROCESSION OF ABOUT 20,000 MOSLEMS WAS OVER BY MID- MORING; ENTIRE AFFAIR WAS ORDERLY AND SUBDUED. THERE WAS NORMAL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY IN BUSINESS SECTIONS AND MANY CHINESE SHOPS WERE OPEN. LARGE NUMBERS OF POLICE, INCLUDING SOME POLICE FIELD FORCE TROOPS, WERE IN EVIDNCE BUT SECURITY WAS NOT NOTICEABLY MORE STRINGENT THAN DURING NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS. CITIES FROM PENANG TO JOHORE BARU WERE ALSO QUIET AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS AROUND COUNTRY OP APRIL 15 AND 16 WERE NOT MARRED BY INCIDENTS.

2. COMMENT: GOM HAS WEATHERED BIGGEST CASE OF JITTERS SINCE MAY 1969 DISTURBANCES, IN NO SMALL PART DUE TO VIGILANCE OF POLICE AND OTHER AUTHORITIES. CURIOUSLY, BY SUNDAY APRIL 15 RUMORS HAD COME FULL CIRCLE TO EFFECT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO VIOLENCE DURING CELEBRATIONS. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHAT ADDITIONAL STEPS GOM WILL TAKE TO DISPOSE OF LANGUAGE EXAMINATION ISSUE ONCE AND FOR ALL (SEE PARA 4 REFTTEL).

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PAGE 02 KUALA 01580 171011 Z

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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